

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the application are respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks herewith, which place the application into condition for allowance. The present amendment is being made to facilitate prosecution of the application.

**I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS AND FORMAL MATTERS**

Claims 1, 4, 5, 8, 17 and 18 are pending. Claim 1 incorporates the allowable subject matter of claim 3 and claim 5 incorporates the allowable subject matter of claim 7. Claims 4 and 8 were indicated as allowable.

Claims 17 and 18 are dependent claims.

Applicants submit herewith a Terminal Disclaimer, obviating the Double Patenting issue.

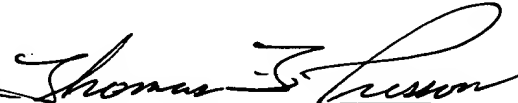
**CONCLUSION**

Please charge any additional fees that may be needed, and credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is believed that all of the claims in this application are patentable and Applicants respectfully request early passage to issue of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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